

Invasive Alien Species (IAS)
Occurrence Form

Date:	
Species Name:	
Location Description: (e.g. 50 meters north of Oiseau creek)	
GPS Coordinates: (e.g. UTM or Lat-Long)	
Habitat Description: (e.g. in sand)	
How many?	
Did you take photos?	
Can we contact you if we need more information?	
Yes	No
Name:	
Phone:	
E-mail:	

What to do if you see an invasive alien species?

- Record your observation by completing the invasive alien species occurrence form located in this pamphlet.
- If you have one, use your GPS to record the precise location of the invasive alien species.
- If possible, take pictures of the plant or animal (make sure not to handle it) and email the pictures to pukaskwaont@pc.gc.ca with the subject heading "Invasive Alien Species".
- Please do not attempt to remove the plant or animal. Park staff will verify your observation and, if needed, will use proper removal or destruction methods to reduce the chances of the invasive alien species becoming established in Pukaskwa National Park.
- Completed forms can be dropped off at the park kiosk or emailed to pukaskwaont@pc.gc.ca.

Note:

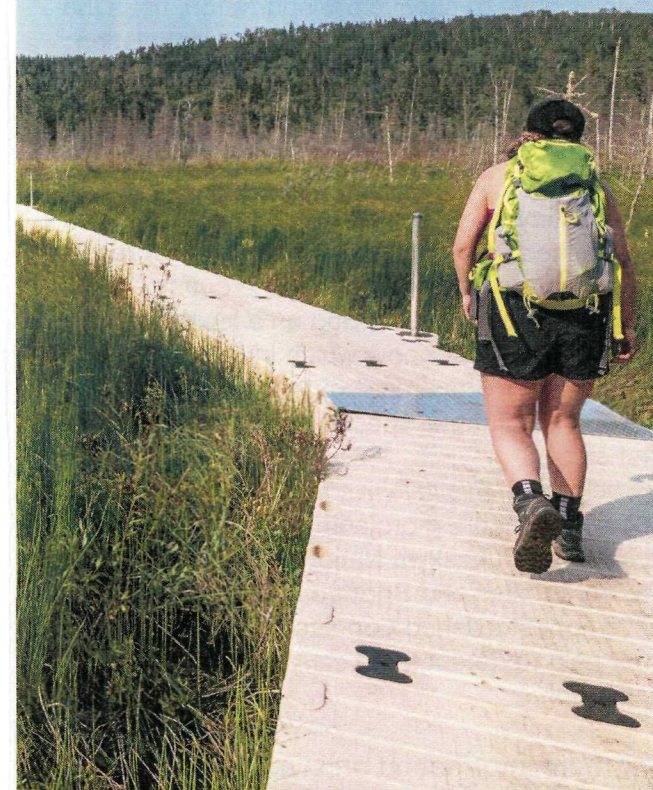
Pitcher's Thistle, a threatened plant species within Pukaskwa National Park, is similar to Spotted Knapweed. As per park regulations, please do not handle any plants or animals.



Pukaskwa
National Park

PUKASKWA NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Invasive Alien Species
Visitor Observations



Parks Canada
Parcs Canada

Canada

What is an invasive alien species (IAS)?

IAS are non-native plants, animals and organisms that can have negative impacts on native species, ecosystem function and human health. For example, the invasive European Common Reed (Phragmites) crowds out native species, which reduces plant biodiversity and provides poorer habitat for animals.

How are invasive alien species (IAS) introduced into new regions?

IAS are transported by humans in a variety of ways including on our boats and vehicles, through poor angling practices or by accidentally transferring seeds on pets, clothing or boots.

Are all non-native species invasive alien species?

No. To be considered 'invasive' non-native species have to survive transportation, have the potential to successfully establish a population and have negative impacts.

How can you help?

Prevention is key as it can be very difficult to get rid of an invasive alien species once it becomes established. You can help minimize the spread by cleaning your boots, checking the cuffs of your pants and keeping your dog on a leash.

Educate yourself! Know which invasive alien species are in the areas you explore to minimize the spread of these species. This pamphlet is the first step!

Participate in this invasive alien species monitoring project! Two invasive alien species on Pukaskwa National Park's watch list are Phragmites and Spotted Knapweed. They have not established populations yet but we need your help to detect them early and ensure they never do!

For more information on invasive alien species, ask the friendly park staff at the Visitor Centre.

European Common Reed (Phragmites) (Phragmites australis australis)

Features: Robust, aggressive perennial grass that grows in very tall, dense, stands.

Habitat: Standing waters of wetlands, stream banks, dunes, lake shores, wet fields and ditches.

Leaves: Alternate, flat, elongated, blue/green and gradually taper to a point. 15-40 cm long, 2-4 cm wide.

Stem:

Non-segmented, tan/beige, erect, hollow, 1-4 m tall.

Flowers: In late summer, early fall. Array flowers grow as a continuation of the stem, have a dense seed head and many branches with smooth spikelets of 3-10 flowers. Long soft white hairs give feathery appearance.



European Common Reed - Flower
Caleb Slemmons, National Ecological Observatory Network, Bugwood.org



European Common Reed - Stem/Leaves
Caleb Slemmons, National Ecological Observatory Network, Bugwood.org

Spotted Knapweed (Centaurea maculosa)

Features: Biennial plant, a plant with a two-year life cycle, with a stout taproot that can penetrate hard surfaces.

Habitat: Disturbed ground, meadows, prairies and dunes. Drought tolerant.



Spotted Knapweed - Rosette
Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

First year: Deeply lobed leaves on short stalks. Up to 15 cm long.

Second year: Alternating leaves, deeply lobed toward base with few nearing the top. The closed flower head is green and egg-shaped with brown to black tapered tips. Up to 1 m tall.

Flower: In summer. Purple/pink (sometimes white), 25-35 flowers per plant. Flower heads are single or 2-3 per branch.



Spotted Knapweed - Flower
Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

These additional invasive alien species are also on Pukaskwa's watch list:

- Mute swan (Cygnus olor)
- Asian carp
- Dog Strangling Vine (Vincetoxicum rossicum)
- Japanese Knotweed (Fallopia japonica)